

INTELLOFAX 6

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Hungary

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SUBJECT Radio Reception

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

The attached report concerning radio reception in Hungary is sent to you for retention in the belief that it may be of interest.

Encls: 1 report (1 page)


Enclosure filed separately

CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

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ARMY	AIR	[REDACTED]										

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Paris, 8 March 1950

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RADIO BROADCASTS

"The Voice of America" comes through very clearly and has perfect reception at night. This broadcast is listened to by the majority of the non-Communist Hungarians who have a radio. Reception, I repeat, is perfect and there is no interference of any kind. The broadcast enjoys great prestige among those in opposition to the present régime.

The B.B.C. and French broadcasts are also regularly heard, but at times there is interference, especially with the B.B.C. broadcasts.

Radio España in Madrid broadcasts in Hungarian at 10:00 p.m., but the broadcasts are harmful to the anti-Communists, since the speaker is a former actress with the Budapest Theatre, a Fascist. On one occasion, a high official with the Interior Ministry [REDACTED] the Hungarian broadcast of Radio Nacional de España in Madrid favored the present Hungarian régime due to its poor presentation and the low moral standing of its speakers.

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Listening to foreign broadcasts is not officially prohibited, but the listeners do it as quietly as possible for fear of reprisals and denouncements. Furthermore, ~~putting up antennas must have~~ permission to put up antennas must be obtained from the house janitor ("portero"), who controls all the tenants.

After buying a radio it is necessary to obtain permission from the Communications Ministry, which gives it only after the janitor and district police have approved it.

Also, radios of medium and high power are almost unattainable for Hungarians because of their prohibitive price (more than 2,500 florins), and because the Communications Ministry does not grant authorization easily.

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